

SUBCHAPTER A—GENERAL

PART 400—BASIS AND SCOPE

Sec.

400.1 Basis.

400.2 Scope.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 3, 6, 13, & 21, Pub. L. 98-575 (49 U.S.C. App. 2601 note).

SOURCE: 53 FR 11013, Apr. 4, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§ 400.1 Basis.

The basis for the regulations in this chapter is the Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984, and applicable treaties and international agreements to which the United States is party.

§ 400.2 Scope.

These regulations set forth the procedures and requirements applicable to the authorization and supervision of all space launch activities conducted from United States territory or by United States citizens. The regulations in this chapter do not apply to amateur rocket activities or to space activities carried out by the United States Government on behalf of the United States Government.

PART 401—ORGANIZATION AND DEFINITIONS

Sec.

401.1 The Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

401.3 The Director of Commercial Space Transportation.

401.5 Definitions.

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 70102.

SOURCE: 53 FR 11013, Apr. 4, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§ 401.1 The Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

The Office of Commercial Space Transportation, referred to in these regulations as the “Office,” is a unit within the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and is located in the Department of Transportation Headquarters, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

§ 401.3 The Director of Commercial Space Transportation.

The Office is headed by a Director appointed by the Secretary of Transportation to exercise the Secretary’s authority to license and otherwise regulate commercial space launch activities and to discharge the Secretary’s responsibility to encourage, facilitate and promote commercial space launches by the United States private sector.

§ 401.5 Definitions.

As used in this chapter—

Act means 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IX, Commercial Space Transportation, ch. 701—Commercial Space Launch Activities, 49 U.S.C. 70101–70121.

Amateur rocket activities means launch activities conducted at private sites involving rockets powered by a motor or motors having a total impulse of 200,000 pound-seconds or less and a total burning or operating time of less than 15 seconds, and a rocket having a ballistic coefficient—i.e., gross weight in pounds divided by frontal area of rocket vehicle—less than 12 pounds per square inch.

Associate Administrator means the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, or any person designated by the Associate Administrator to exercise the authority or discharge the responsibilities of the Associate Administrator.

Federal launch range means a launch site, from which launches routinely take place, that is owned and operated by the government of the United States.

Hazardous materials means hazardous materials as defined in 49 CFR 172.101.

Launch means to place or try to place a launch vehicle or reentry vehicle and any payload from Earth in a suborbital trajectory, in Earth orbit in outer space, or otherwise in outer space, and includes activities involved in the preparation of a launch vehicle for flight, when those activities take place at a launch site in the United States. The term launch includes the

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flight of a launch vehicle and pre-flight ground operations beginning with the arrival of a launch vehicle or payload at a U.S. launch site. Flight ends after the licensee's last exercise of control over its launch vehicle.

Launch accident means an unplanned event occurring during the flight of a launch vehicle resulting in the known impact of a launch vehicle, its payload or any component thereof outside designated impact limit lines; or a fatality or serious injury (as defined in 49 CFR 830.2) to any person who is not associated with the flight; or any damage estimated to exceed \$25,000 to property not associated with the flight that is not located at the launch site or designated recovery area.

Launch incident means an unplanned event occurring during the flight of a launch vehicle, other than a launch accident, involving a malfunction of a flight safety system or failure of the licensee's safety organization, design or operations.

Launch operator means a person who conducts or who will conduct the launch of a launch vehicle and any payload.

Launch site means the location on Earth from which a launch takes place (as defined in a license the Secretary issues or transfers under this chapter) and necessary facilities at that location.

Launch vehicle means a vehicle built to operate in, or place a payload in, outer space or a suborbital rocket.

Mishap means a launch accident, a launch incident, failure to complete a launch as planned, or an unplanned event or series of events resulting in a fatality or serious injury (as defined in 49 CFR 830.2) or resulting in greater than \$25,000 worth of damage to a payload, a launch vehicle, a launch support facility or government property located on the launch site.

Operation of a launch site means the conduct of approved safety operations at a permanent site to support the launching of vehicles and payloads.

Payload means an object that a person undertakes to place in outer space by means of a launch vehicle, including components of the vehicle specifically designed or adapted for that object.

Person means an individual or an entity organized or existing under the laws of a state or country.

State and United States when used in a geographical sense, mean the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, The United States Virgin Islands, Guam, and any other commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States; and

United States citizen means:

(1) Any individual who is a citizen of the United States;

(2) Any corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, or other entity organized or existing under the laws of the United States or any State; and

(3) Any corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, or other entity which is organized or exists under the laws of a foreign nation, if the controlling interest in such entity is held by an individual or entity described in paragraph (1) or (2) of this definition.

Controlling interest means ownership of an amount of equity in such entity sufficient to direct management of the entity or to void transactions entered into by management. Ownership of at least fifty-one percent of the equity in an entity by persons described in paragraph (1) or (2) of this definition creates a rebuttable presumption that such interest is controlling.

[Amdt. 401-01, 64 FR 19613, Apr. 21, 1999]